

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method, comprising:
  - sensing an intruder within a predetermined vicinity of a Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) system; and
  - reducing an emitted power of the FSOC system.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - sensing a capacitance change caused by the intruder.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - sensing a voltage change caused by the intruder.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - comparing a sensed voltage to a reference voltage.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - reducing the emitted power of the FSOC system to a level that is not hazardous to the intruder.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - reducing the emitted power of the FSOC system to a level that allows a communications link involving the FSOC system to remain operative.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - alerting the intruder to a hazardous condition associated with the FSOC system.
8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - rendering an alarm to the intruder.
9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - activating a video recording device.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
providing a notification regarding the intruder.
11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
detecting an absence of the intruder from a predetermined vicinity of the FSOC system.
12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
increasing the emitted power of the FSOC system.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein the FSOC system comprises a radio system.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the intruder is sensed via a capacitive proximity sensor.
15. A system comprising:  
a Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) subsystem; and  
a sensor adapted to detect an intruder within a predetermined vicinity of the FSOC subsystem; and  
a switch adapted to reduce an emitted power of the FSOC subsystem, said switch coupled to said sensor.
16. The system of claim 15, wherein the FSOC subsystem comprises a radio subsystem.
17. The system of claim 15, wherein the sensor is a capacitive proximity sensor.
18. The system of claim 15, wherein the switch comprises an optical attenuator.
19. The system of claim 15, wherein the sensor comprises a plurality of horizontal wires at least partially surrounding a perimeter of an installation site of said FSOC

subsystem.

20. A system comprising:

a Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) subsystem; and

means for sensing an intruder within a predetermined vicinity of the FSOC subsystem; and

means for reducing an emitted power of the FSOC subsystem in response to sensing the intruder.